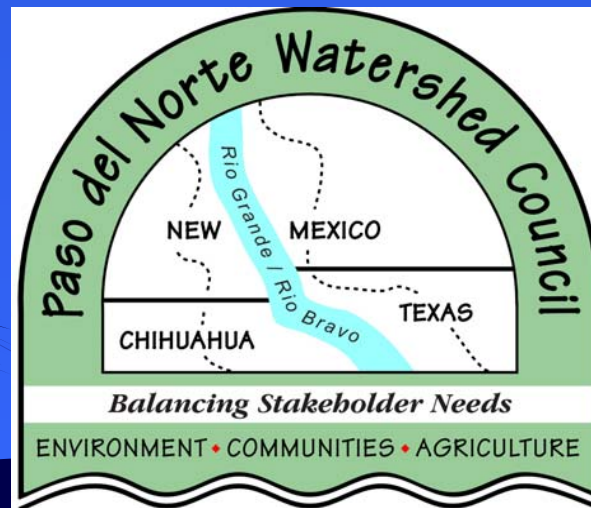


Paso del Norte Watershed Council Coordinated Database Project

Project Update for the IBWC Rio Grande Citizens
Forum Meeting - 11 May 2006

Dr. Christopher Brown and Dr. Zhuping Sheng



Outline of presentation

- ◆ Background to the Project
 - New Mexico/Texas Water Commission and the Paso del Norte Watershed Council
 - Motivation for the Project
- ◆ Progress to date
- ◆ Upcoming survey effort
- ◆ Discussion of future work



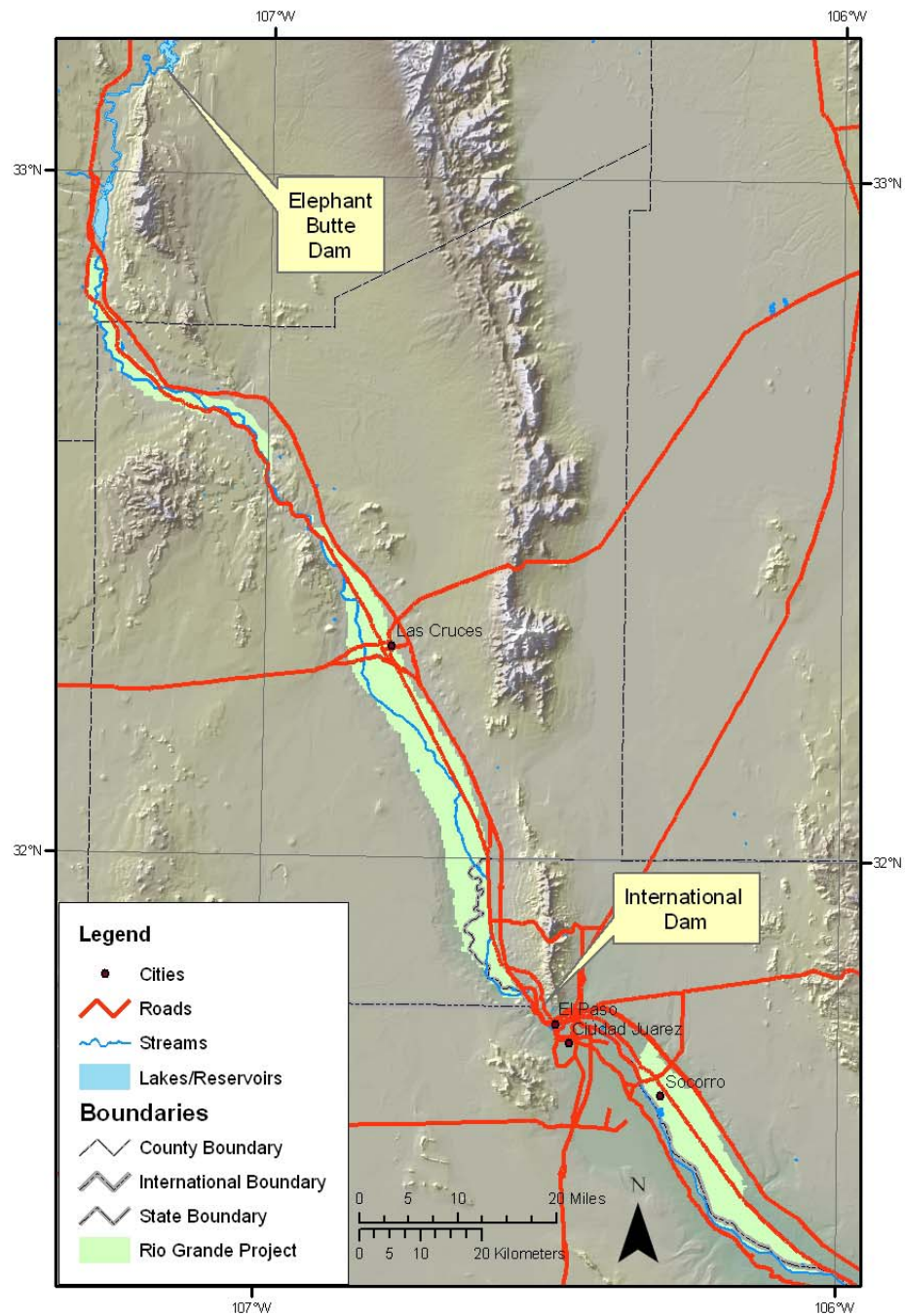
New Mexico Texas Water Commission

- ◆ Developed out of long term Texas/New Mexico water conflict
- ◆ Parties in Commission are regional water resource agencies (EBID, NMSU/WRRI, CLC, DAC, TAMU/TAES, EPWU)
- ◆ New Mexico Texas Water Commission was tool for regional water planning → EP/LC Regional Sustainable Water Project
- ◆ Environmental concerns of project drove establishment of the Paso del Norte Watershed Council

Paso del Norte Watershed Council

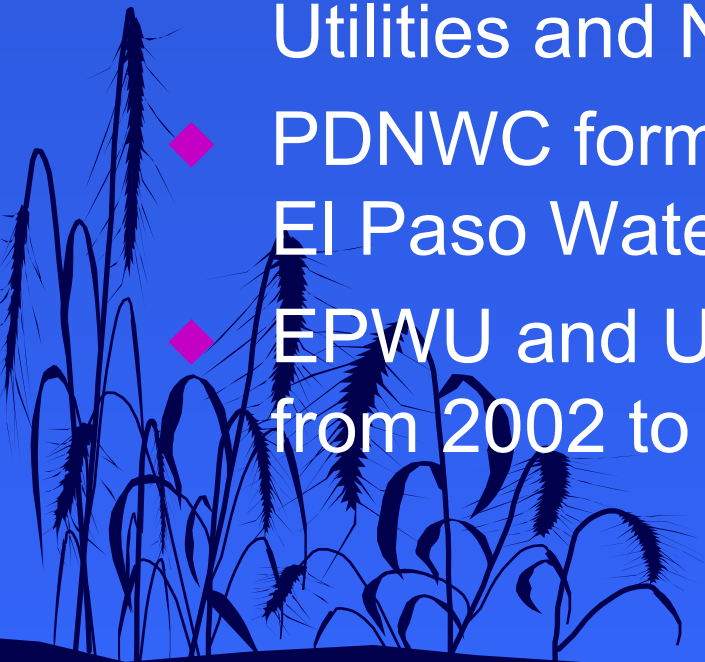
- ◆ PdNWC Mission - As an advisory body to the New Mexico/Texas Water Commission,
 - the Council investigates, develops, and recommends options for watershed planning and management
 - exploring how water-related resources can best be balanced
 - to benefit the Rio Grande ecosystem and the interests of all watershed stakeholders.





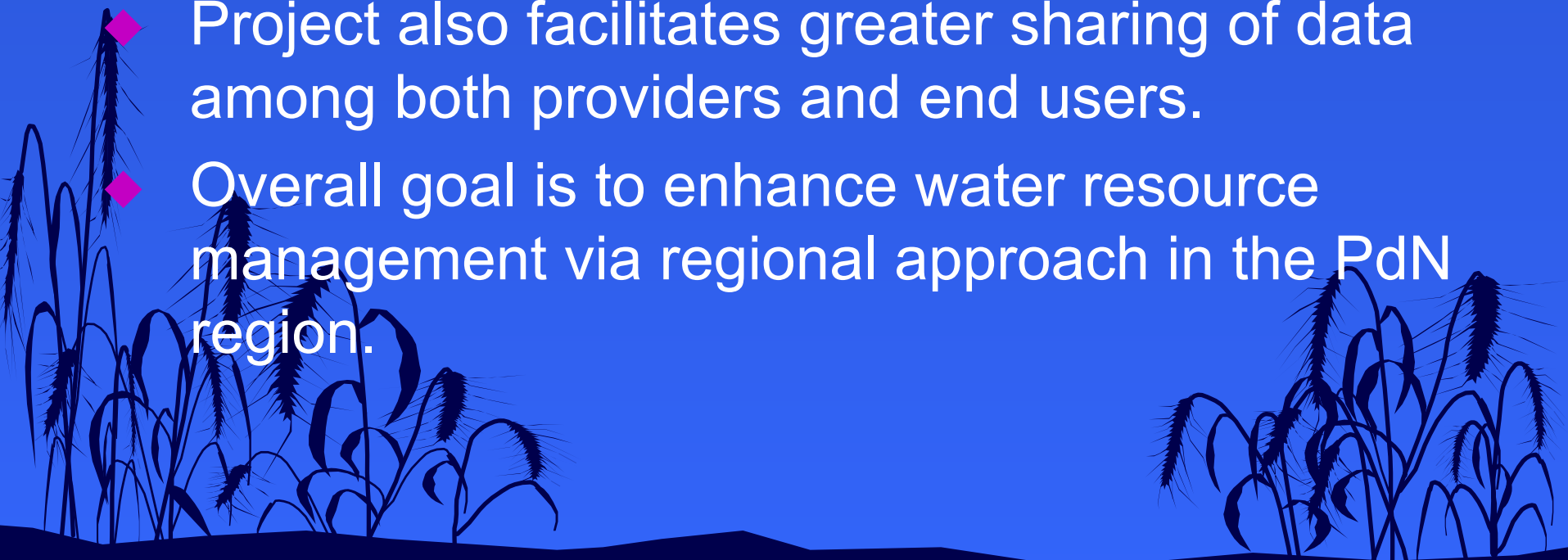
Background of Database Project

- ◆ Long term interest among regional stakeholders in access to water resource data
- ◆ Idea initially advanced by Conrad Keyes through contract work for El Paso Water Utilities and NMTWC
- ◆ PDNWC formally proposed this concept to the El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU) in 2002
- ◆ EPWU and USACE funded various phases from 2002 to present



Objectives of Database Project

- ◆ Goal of the PdNWC project is to provide coordinated access to wide range of water resource data via web-based access and GIS interface
- ◆ Project also facilitates greater sharing of data among both providers and end users.
- ◆ Overall goal is to enhance water resource management via regional approach in the PdN region.



Progress to date

- ◆ Operational website that serves range of water resource data in Paso del Norte region
- ◆ Related GIS data and metadata also served at the website
- ◆ Link to Riverware modeling work being done in conjunction with the USACE URGWOM
- ◆ Ongoing effort to do user needs assessment of previous or potential users of the database
- ◆ Results of user needs assessment will drive future revisions to project website

Upcoming user needs assessment

- ◆ Thrust is to ask users 2 related questions
 - What types of data and utilities do users want in general?
 - How has the experience been with use of existing website, and what suggestions can be made?
 - ◆ Survey will be administered on-line at Project website in near future
 - ◆ Responses will be automatically logged into Project database for analysis
 - ◆ We invite your participation – please provide contact information in tonight's meeting.
- Thanks!

Benefits of work to date

- ◆ Demonstrated utility of the web-based interface and use of GIS tools to serve data
- ◆ Established website for public access to data, <http://river.nmsu.edu/website/pdnwc4/>
- ◆ Development of cooperation across wide range of regional stakeholders
- ◆ Cooperation has demonstrated value and utility of regional partnerships
 - NMSU, NM WWRI, TAMU, and UACJ are partners
 - Leveraging funding from local and national sources

Ideas for future work

- ◆ Inclusion of new data sources into future project phases,
 - Groundwater and source water protection data
 - Stormwater runoff and best management practice data,
 - Land use data for future land use modeling efforts
- ◆ Link the PdNWC Coordinated Database Project to other regional water resource projects
 - USACE/URGWOM modeling activities
 - Lower Rio Grande Basin database development and modeling efforts

Overall project benefits

- ◆ The Project is a tri-state, binational coordinated database compilation and sharing effort
- ◆ The Project supports a regional approach to water resource management in the Paso del Norte region.
- ◆ The Project has brought a wide range of capable stakeholders and researchers into a cohesive and effective team.
- ◆ Additional funding is being pursued to continue the development and maintenance of the water resource database.

